

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please Amend Figures 8, 13, and 18 of the Drawings as described below.

Clean copies of amended drawings are enclosed hereto.

REMARKS

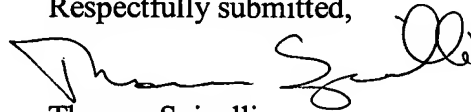
It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-identified application prior to examination.

By means of the present Preliminary Amendment, the specification, Abstract, Drawings, and Claims have been amended. Furthermore, new claims 25-27 have been added. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments and new claims are fully supported in the original disclosure. Thus, no new matter has been entered into the disclosure by way of the present amendment and addition of new claims 25-27.

With regard to the amendment of Figures 8, 13, and 18, Figure 8 has been amended to correct the text in box S2 and the lower left box, Figure 13 has been amended to add reference numeral 142 and Figure 18 has been amended to renumber the Endoscope State Estimator from numeral 148 to numeral 182.

In view of the above, early and favorable consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Spinelli', is written over the typed name.

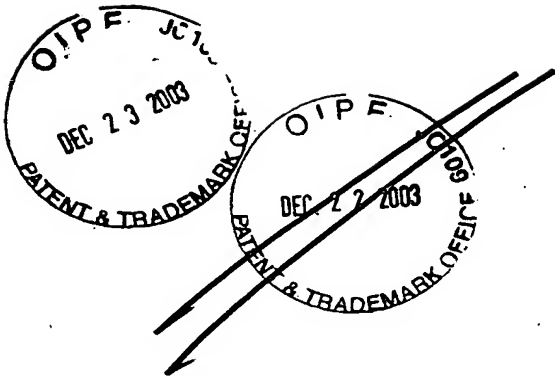
Thomas Spinelli

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TS:cm

Encl. (Clean copies of Amended Figures 8, 13, and 18)



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FIG.8

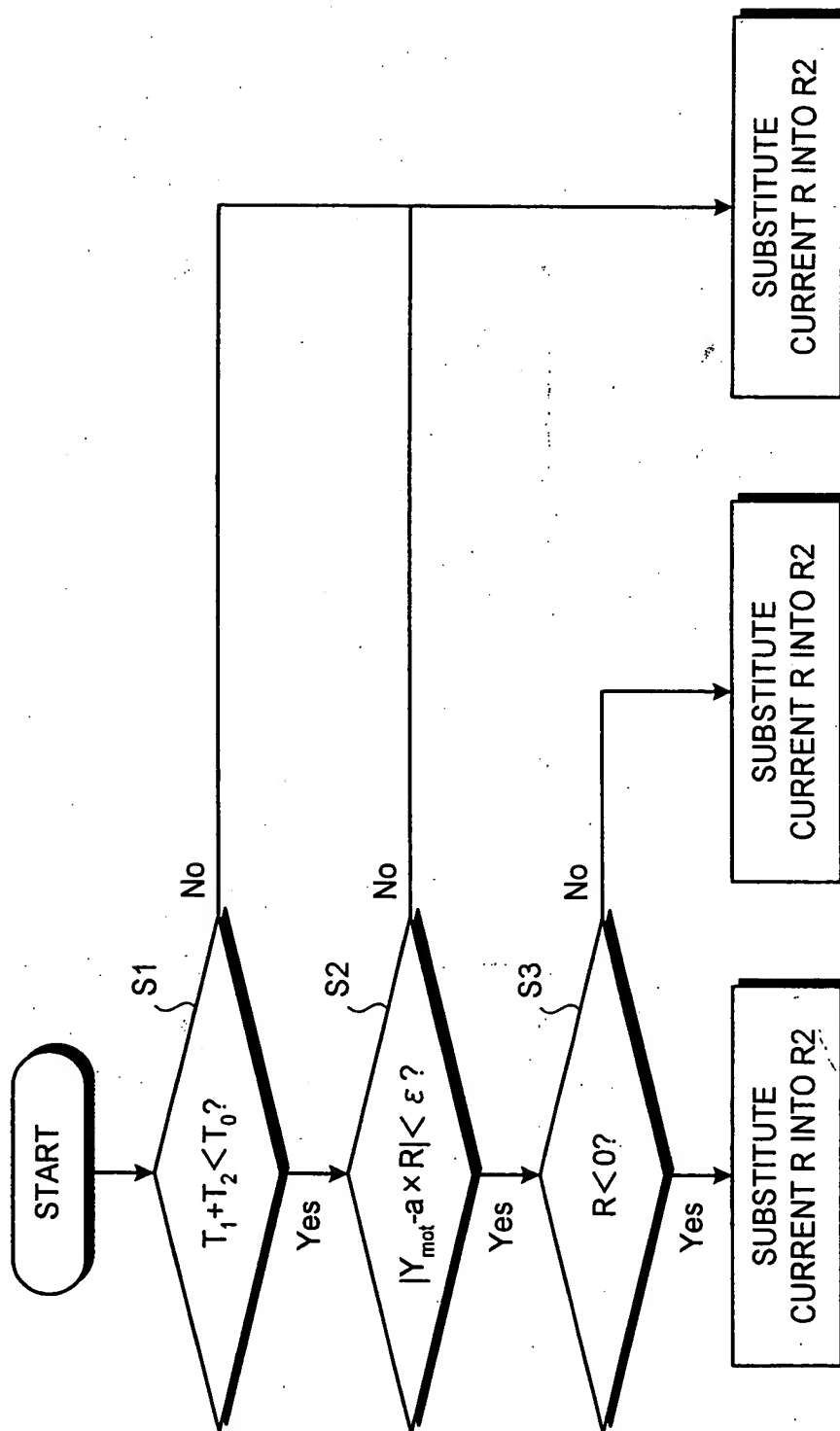


FIG. 13

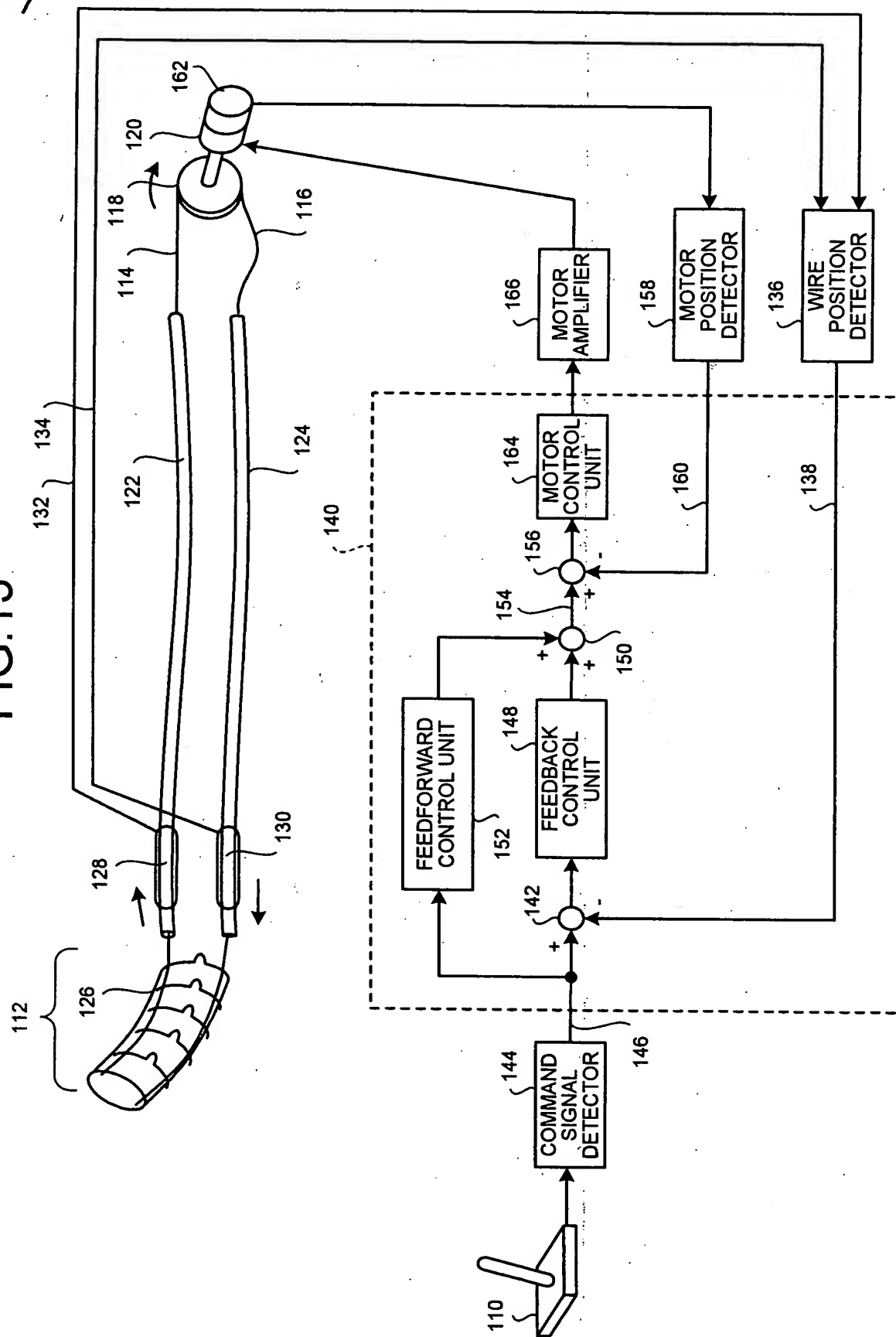


FIG.18

